renowned political leaders of India and eminent personalities in the social and educational fields and the very important persons of the Central and the State Ministries have historical value, and should remain in the custody of the respective State Archives to which they legitimately belong, and no other agency be allowed to acquire them.

Explanatory Note

It is observed that the valuable personal records of political leaders and the V.I.Ps. (Ministers, Deputy Ministers etc.) are taken away from the place to which they legitimately belong, thus depriving the State Archives of their legitimate right on such records. It is, therefore, desirable to see that the personal records of famous political leaders and the V.I.Ps. should remain in the custody of the Archives where they have been created and they should not be removed elsewhere, without their concurrence.

Proceedings:

In view of the implications arising out of the proposal, and because the property rights of private individuals were involved, Shri Khobrekar withdrew the motion.

(b) Resolution by Dr.M.N.Das

Resolved that a standing directive be issued by the National Archives of India to all men of public distinction not to destroy their private papers and official or demi-official correspondence, but to provide for their transfer to the Archives for preservation during or after their lifetime, with permission for their use after a lapse of time.

Explanatory Note

Men of distinction in different walks of life are not necessarily and not always aware of the value of their private papers. They destroy much of their useful correspondence in their lifetime, or leave them for destruction by their descendants. A sense of value has to be created among our leaders, scientists and men of letters regarding their activities as preserved in their own writings.

Proceedings:

The resolution was not taken up due to the absence of Dr. Das.

(12) Records of Religious Institutions

(a) Access to records of religious institutions

Resolution by U.P. Government

This Commission recommends that since the authorities of temples, gurdwaras, churches, khankahs, waqfs etc. possess important documents, they may be requested by Government to allow bonafide Research Scholars to consult those documents for their research purposes, and such scholars wherever possible may help these authorities, if necessary, to prepare their lists voluntarily.

Explanatory Note

Many religious institutions have in their possession old historical documents which are useful for reconstructing the history of the land. It is necessary to induce them at the Government level to open them for research. In this connection the State Government Departments dealing with these institutions could issue the necessary orders for executing this resolution.